MAR 1 0 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE HONOLULU AUTHORITY FOR RAPID TRANSPORTATION TO INCORPORATE A BUS RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM INTO ITS RAIL TRANSIT PLANNING TO CONNECT CERTAIN PARTS OF OAHU WITH THE RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, bus rapid transit (BRT) is an innovative, high capacity, low cost public transit solution that can significantly improve mobility; and

WHEREAS, one of the best ways that cities can become safer is through sustainable transport systems like BRT, which currently serves more than 31,000,000 people each day in more than 180 cities around the globe; and

WHEREAS, BRT is a permanent, integrated system using buses or specialized vehicles on roadways or dedicated lanes to quickly and efficiently transport passengers to their destinations, while offering scheduling flexibility to meet transit demand; and

WHEREAS, BRT systems can be easily customized to address community needs and can incorporate state-of-the-art, low-cost technologies that result in carrying more passengers and reducing congestion; and

WHEREAS, BRT can make mobility safer by providing accessible and efficient infrastructure for moving people rather than moving cars; and

WHEREAS, BRT is a cost-effective way to address traffic congestion and promote greater connectivity; and

WHEREAS, across the country, more and more agencies are turning to BRT as a way to relieve congestion, reduce pollution, and support job growth; and

 WHEREAS, in many ways, BRT is similar to rail-based commuter systems, but can be accomplished at a fraction of the cost and finished in a fraction of the time; and

WHEREAS, BRT is increasingly becoming a major component of city transport systems worldwide by providing a high caliber premium service at a much lower cost than rail systems; and

WHEREAS, the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation needs to consider incorporating BRT into its rail transit planning, particularly with connections between the Leeward Coast and East Kapolei, Kaneohe and Downtown Honolulu, and Wahiawa and Pearl Highlands; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, that the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation is urged to incorporate bus rapid transit into its rail transit planning, particularly with connections between the Leeward Coast and East Kapolei, Kaneohe and Downtown Honolulu, and Wahiawa and Pearl Highlands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, Members of the Honolulu City and County Council, Board of Directors of the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation, and Director of the Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu.

OFFERED BY:

Mun III.

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